

This free one-day training is being
co-sponsored by the
Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Assault
and the Missouri Coalition
Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

Tuesday, July 18th - Columbia, MO
MAKING SAFETY & SUPPORT ACCESSIBLE

Register on-line—NOW!

It is estimated that 83% of women
with disabilities will be sexually
assaulted in their lifetime
(Stimpson & Best, 1991, cited on the
website of the Wisconsin Coalition
Against Sexual Assault, www.wcasa.org).
People with communicative disabilities
often are not able to report the abuse or
are not believed when they do report.
Sexual assault victims with disabilities
frequently experience difficulties
accessing support services,
medical care and the criminal justice
system after an assault.
In this training, attendees will acquire
skills to respond effectively and
sensitively to people who use
alternative communication.

Disclaimer: *This training is intended to be an overview of the issues and to provide introductory skills for responding to people with communicative disabilities who have been sexually abused. It will not address the unique needs of people who are deaf or hard of hearing, although many of the ideas may be useful for providing support. Service providers should engage appropriate sign language or other interpreters when supporting victims of sexual assault who are deaf or hard of hearing.*

We will discuss:

- who the people are who have communicative disabilities
- the problem of sexual assault and abuse against people with disabilities
- why many people with disabilities are vulnerable to abuse
- myths surrounding sexual assault and people with disabilities
- barriers people with disabilities face when reporting sexual abuse and accessing support, safety and other victim services
- ways in which some people with disabilities communicate and what it means
- how sexual violence impacts the emotional and physical well-being of the victim and of the non-offending people who care about them
- what service providers need to know to provide effective and timely support
- how to use the symbol book (provided free to attendees) as one way to communicate with a victim of sexual violence who uses alternative communication

Who should attend:	Professionals, managers, and administrators of organizations which provide services to persons with disabilities or to victims of sexual violence
Where:	Holiday Inn Select - Executive Center 2200 I-70 Dr. SW Columbia, MO 65203
When:	Tuesday, July 18, 2006 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM Registration opens at 7:30 AM
Cost:	No cost for registration or materials - Lunch is provided for attendees
CEU/CEHs:	Check websites listed below for information and updates
To register:	www.iowacasa.org Registration closes 7/13
For questions, contact the following—	
Training/Content:	Kristen Houser at khouser3@cox.net or 402.650.6873
Location:	Emily Hayes at MCADSV at emilyh@mocadv.org or 573.634.4161
Registration:	Sheri Floyd at IowaCASA at community_resource@iowacasa.org or 515.244.7424 x 35

About the Trainers—

Kristen Houser is the owner of Moxie Resources, LLC, in Omaha NE, providing consulting, training, and public speaking on issues related to sexual violence and prostitution. She has 14 years of experience as an educator, victim advocate, program administrator, policy specialist, community activist, and writer—becoming a nationally recognized expert in the field of sexual violence. She worked to redraft and reauthorize the VAWA Act as a member of the National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence and served as President of the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence in 2004. Houser earned her bachelor's degree in human development and family studies from Penn State University in 1993 and an MPA from the University of Nebraska-Omaha in 2005.

Christine White has been a social worker for adults and children with developmental disabilities for 25 years. Currently, she is the Legal Advocate for People with Developmental Disabilities who are victims of abuse and crimes in Dane County, WI. For 20 years, she has taught sexuality education, protective behaviors, and incest survivor support to children and adults with developmental disabilities. White is a certified VAWA trainer and also trains caregivers on issues of power, control, and subtle forms of abuse towards people with developmental disabilities and co-facilitates a support group. She was the coordinator of the Vulnerable Adults Legal Intervention project through the Wisconsin Council on Developmental Disabilities and was a crisis line volunteer. White has published material on abuse of people with developmental disabilities for the Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault.

About IowaCASA—

The **Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Assault's** mission is unite people and organizations to promote a society free from sexual violence and to meet the diverse needs of survivors of sexual assault. IowaCASA began in 1981. Today, IowaCASA has 27 member sexual assault crisis centers serving survivors throughout the state. A short list of initiatives include: technical assistance and training, civil legal assistance (including immigration issues), responding to communities of color, assisting survivors with developmental disabilities, a national peer-based project assisting other coalitions, statewide prevention, training allied professionals, and public policy efforts at the state and national level.

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The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.

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